



U.S. Department of Justice

***United States Attorney
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LITTLE ROCK CONTRACTOR GUILTY OF TAX EVASION

Little Rock – United States Attorney Bud Cummins announced that a jury for the Eastern District of Arkansas sitting in Little Rock returned a verdict of guilty today against Ronald E. Robinson, 49, of Little Rock. Following a four day trial, the jury convicted Robinson on four counts of income tax evasion. Robinson faces up to 20 years in prison and fines up to \$1,000,000 when he is sentenced by U.S. District Judge George Howard, Jr. in a few months.

The government's proof established that Robinson, a self-employed masonry and contractor, attempted to defeat the payment of a large portion of a federal tax debt he owes for calendar years 1995 and 1996 by discontinuing the filing of tax return. Additionally, the government proved that Robinson attempted to conceal assets and income through numerous cash transactions, made false statements to agents of the Internal Revenue Service, and placed property in the name of a nominee, including luxury automobiles, a boat and real estate.

One evasion count pertained to Robinson's failure to pay his IRS debt. Robinson was also convicted on three counts of income tax evasion pertaining to his 1997, 1998 and 1999 federal income tax returns. Evidence presented during the trial proved that Robinson failed to file income tax returns for those years although he had approximately over one million dollars in gross income during that time period.

This investigation was conducted by IRS Criminal Investigation.

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